



For Immediate Release

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Statement of Mayor Leclerc on Hartford Business Journal 40 Under 40 Awards

11 Selectees Affiliated with the Town

(July 27, 2016) **East Hartford, CT** – Mayor Marcia A. Leclerc released the following statement on the Hartford Business Journal’s 40 under 40 Awards:

“I am very pleased to see so many familiar names recognized by the Hartford Business Journal this year. Some very special people choose to live or work in our town, and we are very grateful for their important contributions to our community. The honorees are a credit to our Town and a shining example for all of us of what hard work, dedication, and service can do. From business leaders and entrepreneurs to community leaders, East Hartford is host to many of Greater Hartford’s best and brightest.”

Four East Hartford residents were honored; Charles Kenneth Botts III, Matt Conway, Tyron Harris, and Trudi Lebron. Botts was honored for his work in career development for Career Team LLC, as well as his service and church work empowering and mentoring youth. Conway is a Senior Manager, Provider Strategic Initiatives at CareCentrix and is highly active in mentoring and youth education – he founded RiseUp Group, a youth empowerment non-profit in Hartford. Tyron Harris is a member of the East Hartford Board of Education, and a Human Resources Business Partner at ADP. He also founded H.O.P.E. a career readiness and advancement non-profit. Trudi Lebron is the founder of ScriptFlip!, a social enterprise working to change social narratives about urban youth, and is passionate about redesigning youth outreach programs.

Five of the honorees work in East Hartford, Keith Corneau of United Steel, Michael Fitzpatrick of the Connecticut Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Matthew Hoffman of Hoffman Auto Group, Aaron Isaacs of Goodwin College, and Adam von Gootkin, co-founder of Onyx Spirits Company. Corneau is a business leader, advocate for the construction industry in Connecticut, and is active with the Brain Injury Alliance of Connecticut. Fitzpatrick is a champion for Scouting and a passionate volunteer.

Matthew Hoffman is a business leader and helps run a fourth generation family-owned business. Aaron Isaacs is a mentor, coach, and youth advocate. Von Gootkin is an entrepreneur, business mentor, and the co-founder of the first legal moonshine company in New England.

Finally, Andre Santiago and Matthew Necci, former residents and graduates of East Hartford High School were also honored. Santiago, a Hartford resident, is Director of Youth Programs at Leadership Greater Hartford and was honored for his efforts in youth education, mentoring, and leadership development. Necci, who lives in Glastonbury, is a Partner at Halloran & Sage LLP and a member of the Board of Directors for both Leadership Greater Hartford, and Special Olympics of Connecticut.

Full profiles of the honorees can be found in the Hartford Business Journal or at <http://www.hartfordbusiness.com/article/20160725/PRINTEDITION/307219900>

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